

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as amended, is respectfully requested.


Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the withdrawal of the Election/Restriction Requirement. Applicants further submit herewith a supplemental information disclosure statement submitting U.S. Patent No. 6,267,705 and Japanese Patent No. JP59220440 (with corresponding English Abstract) for consideration by the Examiner.

Claims 8-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 24 is objected to as being dependent on claim 17 rather than 22.

Applicants have herein amended claims 1, 5-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18-19, 22 and 25, and have canceled claims 2-4, and 23-24. It is applicants' position that neither U.S. Patent No. 6,267,705 nor Japanese Patent No. JP59220440, as understood based strictly on a review of the English abstract thereof, either alone or in combination with any of the other references of record, show, disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter of the amended claims. Accordingly, applicants believe that the claims 1, 5-22 and 25 are in condition for allowance, as such action is solicited. The Examiner is

cordially invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss any unresolved matters.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Michael
Registration No. 37,394
Barnes & Thornburg
11 South Meridian Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3335
Telephone: (317) 231-7382
Fax: (317) 231-7433